

TASMANIAN UFO INVESTIGATION CENTRE

MAY 1980 Newsletter. (30)

Correspondence to TUFOIC, PO Box 99 NORTH HOBART 7000.

French Government backed Investigation.

Mention has been made in previous Newsletters and Annual Reports (1980) of the French Government backed UFO investigation group GEPAN. Further information has come to us by way of Bill Chalker (UFO Research NSW).

Conclusions were made from a Statistical Study on 825 Type Reports, the main conclusions which emerged clearly:

Observations made in France and those abroad give the same statistical result. An observation ofefn made by TUFOIC.

70% of observations have at least 2 witnesses and 50% of observations have at least 3 witnesses. For Tasmanian reports 67% of sightings had at least 2 witnesses, and 34% for at least 3 witnesses.

The great majority of observers (70%) is made up exclusively of adults. The majority of Tasmanian unexplained reports originate from adults. A very wide range of professions and abilities are represented by the witnesses, some of whose abilities are of a very high level. The Australian Centre for UFO Studies (previously ACOS) collected data on witness occupations and the data recorded supports this conclusion.

The majority of observations are of several minutes duration. Very short lived phenomena or phenomena of very long duration are rarely observed. Only 8% of Tasmanian cases lasted less than 2 minutes with an other 12% beyond one hour.

Most observations are made in good weather and clear sky in all countries. Another statistic collected by ACUFOS. Whatever the UFO is at least it fits in with the prevailing visibility.

30% of observations are made at a distance of less than 150 metres. TUFOIC has no equivalent statistic. However, 31% of sightings were Close Encounters or occurred in other words within 200metres of the witness.

70% of observations have a circular or disc shape. The Centre's figure would be about 50% but it is not always easy to fit shapes into neat statistics. Comparison of daylight and nocturnal observations for colour of objects revealed a high degree of consistency within these reports - objects with metallic colours (daylight 30%, nocturnal 3%) Luminous red-orange objects (daylight 12%, nocturnal 46%). Many local cases have involved red-orange objects especially at night.

Observed object being described as luminous in daytime compared with nighttime. (86% daytime as against 98% at night).

With respect to speed, 40% of objects observed were described as having been successively "stationery, then fast moving" In 20% of cases, "lightning" speed is reported.

50% of cases comprise "irregular" trajectories, with successive stops or sharp turns or arabesques ... 20% of these reports describe a landing. The great majority of the objects (70%) observed are silent.

Landings are only described exceptionally in inhabited areas. (70% in very remote areas, 20% near isolated homes)

The statistics covering only cases of landings give identical results to those other cases (night lights for example).

All countries in the world would appear to be concerned by the broadcast of observation reports, irrespective of culture, religion, lifestyle and political situation.

The geographical distribution of French observations is not tied to the population density and to conditions of visibility (the weather and natural cover)

The division into times is shown as "uncertain" (no simple correlation is apparent) For each of the earth's hemisphere, the most observations occur in October and the fewer in February and 70% of observations are at night. TUFOIC's records have December as the low month, 17 unexplaineds since 1948. July has the most with 36. The seasons show a more marked trend, Autumn and winter totalling about 57% of unexplained cases, Spring 22% and Summer 21%.

Any correlation between disturbances of terrestrial magnetic fields cannot be taken as evidence, contrary to the widespread belief that these objects have an effect on the orientation of a compass.

PUBLICATIONS.

In the future the Centre will be forwarding sighting and general information to the new Australia wide bi-monthly publication "UFO RESEARCH MAGAZINE". The publication is compiled in South Australia on behalf of the Australian Centre for UFO Studies. This will mean the eventual disappearance of our two Newsletters per year, probably at the close of this year. Newsletter material will be in the magazine along of course with sightings and articles from around Australia. The Annual Report has yet to be decided on, however the Report reaches the Tasmanian public, keeps them informed, brings in new members, and creates media interest. (Continued page 2)

NOTE our next meeting date will be Friday June 13th at the BP Theatre, City Mutual Building, 47 Liverpool St, commencing 8pm. If you know of a sighting and can't come ring Keith Roberts on 236009 (evening) or write to PO Box 99, North Hobart.

Publications continued.

This means that information previously in our Newsletters will probably appear in the UFO RESEARCH publication or on meeting notices. Members should find this a more comprehensive source of information.

The alterations will mean a change in subscription rates, if you wish to subscribe at once to UFO RESEARCH the Membership fee will be \$9.00 per annum. Members who have already remitted \$3.50 (or \$2.00 publications only) will still receive a Newsletter about October and be able to attend meetings. From the New Year there will be only the one subscription rate of \$6.00.

Whilst on publications the Centre has a number that members may be interested in obtaining. (every Tasmanian interested in UFOs should have one?) Still available TUFOIC's 1978 and 1979 Annual Reports at 50c each, or this years 1980 Report for 60c. Defraction grating slide available at 30c. Just out, its a must for your collection, a new Tasmanian Landings Catalogue for only \$2.00.

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MYSTERY OF THE TINIEST UFO (Earthlink Summer 79.."Daily Mirror" 31.8.79)

Two flying instructors are baffled by a UFO that is just 23cms lon. The pilots reported a close encounter with the UFO over Hampshire. The first sighting was by chief instructor Laurie Adlington of the Three Counties Aeroclub during a training flight from Blackbushe Airport. He said the object looked like a flattened blob of mercury shinning in the sunlight as he approached at 700m (2500ft)." It consisted of little flattened hexagonal panels, each about and inch across", said Mr Adlington(58) yesterday. "It was in two halves and there seemed to be two clasps near the dividing line. There were two short aerals at the top. From fifteen feet away it seemed motionless, although it rose to 900m (3000ft) at one stage. It seemed to be rotating. I have'nt a clue how it stayed aloft". The next day a similar object was seen at the same time in the afternoon by pilot Simon Spence (21), also a Three Counties instructor. He reported that it flew off towards Farnborough at 250kph(150mph).

WHAT ABOUT TASMANIAN SIGHTINGS.

Whats going on in Tasmania ? A very good question which at the moment has a simple answer, nothing very much.

Maybe a comparison of figures from other years will illustrate the position better. As we approach the end of May the Centre has received 17 reports to check out for the year to date, of which 1 remains unexplained.

As at the end of May 1979 we had 83 investigations with 9 unexplained.

1978	63	5
1977	73	20
1976	103	21
1975	72	28
1974	76	18

The early 70s averaged about 30 to 40 investigations and we have to go back to 1970 with 10 investigations for a quieter period than this years(as at May remember) At the moment we have one unexplained report with an other from 1978, a few reports are still being investigated. A Launceston witness reports seeing an erratic nocturnal light over Prospect in mid April. Another Northern case is a repeated car pace by a red light at Hillwood, and also in April a dark object seen over a paddock at Lefroy. December 26th 1978 NL 01.00 1hr 2witnesses ROKEBY

The witnesses were looking out for the return of a family member when a full moon sized object was noticed to the north west. It was round, coloured white, and moving slowly southwards at a high elevation. It eventually stopped after 20 minutes arriving at a position to the south of the witnesses. They decided to go outside for a better view. However, the object then started to approach them and was that bright it lit up the house and garden.

The witnesses ran inside at this point and the UFO reversed its direction back to the south. They noted that it seemed to turn its light away from them as if it had a dark and bright side. The object stopped in the south again but then returned north west very fast before disappearing off to the north east. Value 1 B.

MARCH 10th 1980 NL 21.30 15secs 3 BAGDAD

Three witnesses were parked in their car on a side road just east of Bagdad, the car was facing west. Then a large whitish elliptical object appeared from the hills to their southern side. One witness had the impression it was spinning, all agreed it was travelling fast to the north and within 4 seconds was lost from view behind a large gum tree. It did no reappear going north but after some seconds returned back to the south extremely fast and was gone in yet another few seconds. One witness missed the objects return flight. One witness though there was at one point a low whirring noise.

A glow was noticed over the hill were the object had disappeared although there may be no connection with the sighting. The witnesses then decided it was time to leave the area. The Airport advised there had been a passenger plane circling Tea Tree some kilometers to the south but not at the time alleged by the witnesses. The witnesses saw no flashing lights and claim the object moved much too fast for an aircraft. Value 2.B

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE THAT THE STATEMENT AT THE HEAD OF PAGE TWO OF THIS NEWSLETTER, RELATING TO NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES, IS TO BE DISREGARDED. MEMBERSHIP FEES WILL REMAIN AT THE CURRENT RATES.

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